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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: Nobuhiro GOTOU, et al.

Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned

(§371 of International Application PCT/JP03/07624)

Filed: December 9, 2004

For: METHOD OF DISTRIBUTING AND LAYING OPTICAL FIBER CABLES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: December 9, 2004

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and examination of this application, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows: